GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services – Registration & Stamps Department – Allegation of tearing and tampering of records against the staff working in Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajahmundry – disciplinary proceedings initiated against Smt.M.S.Kiranmayi, Junior Assistant, Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajahmundry among certain others - Regular enquiry conducted – Report submitted – charges proved - Enquiry report communicated – Representation submitted – examined – Imposing the penalty of stoppage of three annual grade increments with cumulative effect – Orders – Issued.

REVENUE (VIGILANCE-II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.960 **Dated:14-09-2017**

Read the following:

1. DR, R&S, Rajahmundry Lr.No.G1/368/2014, dt:30-5-2014.
2. DIG, R&S, Kakinada Lr.No.X/388/2014, dt:9-12-2014 & dt:30-9-2015.
3. DIG, R&S, Kakinada Charge Memo.No.X/388/2014-1, dt:18-11-2014.
4. WSD of Smt.M.S.Kiranmayi, Jr.Asst., dt:Nil.
5. G.O.Rt.No.1211, Rev (Vig.II) Deptt., dt:27-11-2015.
6. G.O.Rt.No.1212, Rev (Vig.II) Deptt., dt:27-11-2015.
7. G.O.Rt.No.1328, Rev (Vig.II) Deptt., dt:31-12-2015.
8. DIG, R&S, Kakinada Lr.No.X/388/2014-2, dt:1-10-2016.
9. Govt., Memo.No.36555/Vig.II(1)/2014-5, dt:10-1-2017.
10. Representation of the CO Smt.M.S.Kiranmayi, Jr.Asst., dt:16-2-2017.
11. Govt., Lr.No.36555/Vig.II(1)/2014-6, dt:13-6-2017.
12. APPSC Lr.No.511/DC&C/1/2017, dt:12-7-2017.

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ORDER:

Whereas, in the reference 2nd read above, the Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Kakinada has brought to the notice of the Government that certain officials of Registration & Stamps department who worked previously in the Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajahmundry from 2011 onwards were involved in tearing and tampering of records in Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajahmundry.

2. And whereas, in the reference 3rd read above, the Disciplinary Authority i.e., the Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Kakinada has initiated disciplinary proceedings against Smt.M.S.Kiranmayi, Junior Assistant, Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajahmundry duly framing the following charge among certain others.

Charge: That Smt.M.S.Kiranmayi, Junior Assistant, Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajahmundry among 8 others have committed grave misconduct in as much as they have failed to safeguard and preserve the records of the office.

That on a complaint received from one Sri Addepalli Chenna Kesava, S/o late Nageswara Rao, R/o Rajahmundry alleging that the Registrar Office, Rajahmundry issued copies of three fake documents, verification of the records was made by the Preliminary enquiry officer and the following fraudulent act was found, for which the above named official (under suspension) who are handling the records are jointly and collectively responsible.

Torn out and replacement with fake pages in Book-I:
Volume No.1247 – Pages 65 to 73 (3 sheets)
Page No.47 to 64.

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Apart from the above, the relevant pages in index I & II were also torn out in order to disappearance of evidence. Verification of the D-Account Registrar discloses the following details with regard to movement of the relevant Volumes of Book-I:

S.No	Date of taking the relevant volume for preparing C.C.	S.No. & C.No.	Doc. No. meant for C.C.	Volume No
1	22.3.2011	1532/11 & 1463/11	5093/74	1247
2	5.6.2013	3575/13 & 3508/13	5093/74	1247
3	5.6.2013	3576/13 & 3509/13	6088/79	1427
4	5.6.2013	3577/13 & 3510/13	6149/79	1433
5	7.6.2013	3636/13 & 3569/13	6088/79	1427
6	7.6.2013	3637/13 & 3568/13	5093/74	1247
7	10.6.2013	3662/13 & 3593/13	6149/79	1433
8	28.2.2014	232/14 & 1427/14	6149/79	1433
9	28.2.2014	233/14 & 1428/14	6088/79	1247

As per the Standing orders in vogue on the subject, as enunciated in new S.O.Nos.1112 and 1113 (i), the above named staff member (u/s) is individually and collectively responsible for the tampering and, loss or destruction of records.

Thus, she acted in a manner which is unbecoming of Government Servant and thereby contravened the provisions of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

3. The Charged Officer submitted Written Statement of Defence in the reference 4th read above. Due to involvement of certain Retired officials along with in service officials, the Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Kakinada has sent proposals for conducting common enquiry as all of them were involved in common irregularity vide reference 2nd read above.

4. And whereas, in the reference 5th read above, Government have ordered for common enquiry against all the 25 Registration officials who were commonly involved in the allegation of tearing and tampering of records in the Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajahmundry.

5. In the refrences 6th & 7th read above, Government have appointed Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Kakinada as Inquiring Authority and District Registrar, Registration & Stamps, Machilipatnam as Presenting Officer.

6. The Inquiring Authority in the reference 8th read above has furnished the enquiry report whrein he held among others that the charge framed against Smt M.S.Kiranmayi, Junior Assistant, Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajahmundry was held proved among certain others.

7. Government have examined the matter and communicated the Inquiring Authority report to the Charged Officer duly offering her representation if any on the findings of Inquiring Authority in the reference 9th read above.

8. And whereas, in the reference 10th read above, the Charged Officer submitted representation stating the charge amputated in articles of charge is that the document numbers 5093/1974, 6088/1979 and 6149/1979 were tampered, torn out and fake documents were pasted in their place and that after having the fake documents got pasted in book volumes, 3 culprits namely Sri. Padala Venkata Reddy and Sri. Nallamilli Venkata Reddy filed a Writ Petition No.3448/2014 on 06-02-2014 against Smt. Addepalli Krishna Kumari, wife of the petitioner Sri. Addepalli Chennakesava Rao as

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respondent No.5 in the writ petition for their wrongful gain by way of grabbing land belonging to the petitioner causing laws to the petitioner and his family member. She has further stated that on receipt of copy of writ petition along with copies of fake documents, the petitioner Sri Addepalli Chennakesava Rao again obtained certified copies of fake documents by putting in an application under RTI act 2005 and submitted a petition dated 27-03-2014 to the District Registrar, Rajahmundry. On that Sri. M.Srinivasa Murthy, District Registrar, Rajahmundry conducted preliminary enquiry in detailed and in-depth and found that the certified copies of fake documents were furnished to the concerned applicants. She has further stated that as per the above statement mentioned in the Charge, the certified copy of the fake documents bearing No.5093/74 was prepared and was given to the applicant on 22-03-2011 and stated that on 05-06-2013 again the document No.5093/74 and document Nos.6088/79 and 6149/79 were prepared and furnished to the applicants. Hence, the fake documents were already in existence prior to 05-06-2013 and stated that one of the charged officer Sri Md. Shajahan prepared certified copies of document Nos. 5093/74 and 6088/79 on 19-12-2012 and document Nos.5093/74, 6088/79, 6149/79 on 5-6-2013 and they were counter signed by charged officer Sri M.Rajababu the then Joint Sub Registrar-II and then furnished them to the concerned applicants by the charged officer Sri Md.Shajahan. Thus, it has been proved and established that the above fake documents were already in existence prior to 05-06-2013. In this regard she further stated that she Joined in the Sub-Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajamahendravaram on 27-06-2013 on transfer from (Administrative Branch), Rajamahendravaram and stated that the question of tampering of documents by her does not arise since there were already in existence prior to her joining. Thereafter, one Bandaru Srinivasa Rao, S/o. Satyanarayana Murthy of Vadapalam Village applied seeking the copies of the said 3 documents under Right to Information Act, 2005 and stated that as per the instructions of her superior officers vide C.No.232/2014, 233/2014, 234/2014 the photo copies of the same existing documents were prepared by way of taking photos with service camera and delivered to the applicant on 28-02-2014. She has also stated that the ratio and proportion applied to the other charged officers against whom the charges were held not proved has not been applied to her. She has therefore, requested the Government to consider her representation to drop further proceedings against her or to order for reenquiry in the matter.

9. Government after careful examination of the matter and keeping in view the findings of the Inquiring Authority observed that after joining in Register's Office (Original Branch), the Charged Officer was maintaining Account "D" and observed that her duties were to conduct search in indexes and read out the entry of the document to the applicant when an application was presented for cerified copy of a document. As such, the Charged Officer has got access to old records viz., indexes and register books. It is further observed that the Charged Officer is individually and collectively responsible for the tampering, loss or destruction of records as per S.O.1112 & 1113(i). Finally, based on the accessibility of the Charged Officers to the old records, the Inquiring Authority held the charge proved against Smt.M.S.Kiranmayi, Junior Assistant, Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajahmundry. Therefore, Government have provisionally decided to impose a penalty of stoppage of three annual grade increments with cumulative effect against Smt.M.S.Kiranmayi, Junior Assistant Registrar Office (Original Branch), Rajahmundry and sought for concurrence of Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission in the reference 11th read above.

10. And whereas in the reference 12th read above, the Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission have agreed with the proposal of the Government (copy enclosed to the Charged Officer).

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11. Accordingly, Government, hereby order to impose a punishemnet of stoppage of three annual grade increments with cumulative effect against Smt.M.S.Kiranmayi, Junior Assistant, Registrar Office, Original Branch, Rajahmundry.

12. The Director & Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Andhra Pradesh and Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Kakinada shall take necessary action in the matter accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

Dr.D.SAMBASIVA RAO
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (CT, EXCISE & R&S)

To

The Director & Inspector General, Registration & Stamps,
Andhra Pradesh, Eedupugallu, Vijayawada, Krishna District.
The Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Kakinada.
The Individual (w.e)
(through the Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Kakinada with a request to serve the order on the individual and furnish the served copy along with dated acknowledgement to Government for record).

Copy to:

The Secretary to the Vigilance Commissioner, Andhra Pradesh Vigilance Commission, Velagapudi, Andhra Pradesh,Secretariat, Guntur District.
The Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission, Hyderabad.
SF / SC.

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER